Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A nanocrystalline material, comprising:

a metal selected from the group consisting of silver, gold, platinum and palladium; and

an element selected from the group consisting of oxygen, nitrogen, carbon, boron, sulfur, phosphorus, silicon, a halogen, hydrogen and combinations thereof,

wherein the nanocrystalline material contains at least about one atomic percent of the element, and the nanocrystalline material is contained in an article in the form of a tape, a pill, a capsule, a tablet, a lozenge or a suppository.

2. (Original) The nanocrystalline material of claim 1, wherein the nanocrystalline material comprises at most about 90 weight percent of the element.

3. (Cancelled).

4. (Original) The nanocrystalline material of claim 1, wherein the nanocrystalline material is contained within a composition that further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

5-9. (Cancelled).

10. The nanocrystalline material of claim 1, wherein the nanocrystalline material is in the form of an agglomerate of clusters of atoms.

11. (Cancelled).

12. The nanocrystalline material of claim 1, wherein the nanocrystalline material comprises a material selected from the group consisting of antimicrobial materials, antibacterial materials, anti-inflammatory materials, antifungal materials, antiviral materials, anti-autoimmune materials, anti-cancer materials, pro-apoptosis materials, MMP modulating materials, anti-proliferative materials, and combinations thereof.

13. The nanocrystalline material of claim 1, wherein the metal comprises silver.

14. The nanocrystalline material of claim 1, wherein the nanocrystalline material comprises at least two different metal elements.